

27 April 2005



Iraq Weekly Status Report

UNCLASSIFIED



Table of Contents

SECTION

SLIDE(S)

Highlights

3

1.0 Neutralize the Insurgents

5

2.0 Ensure the Continuation of Support for Iraq's Electoral Process through 2005

6

3.0 Create Jobs and Provide Essential Services

9

4.0 Establish Foundations for a Strong Economy

14

5.0 Establish Good Governance, Rule of Law

20

6.0 Maintain International Engagement & Support

22

General Information

24



Highlights

1.0 Neutralize the Insurgents

- Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) continue operations to neutralize the insurgents.

2.0 Ensure the Continuation of Support for Iraq's Electoral Process through 2005

- On April 28, The Transitional National Assembly overwhelmingly approved the cabinet of Iraq Prime Minister Ja'afari. This followed the approval of this list by the Presidency Council. The list included five positions that will be filled temporarily by other members of the cabinet (e.g. Ja'afari will act as Defense Minister) until a decision can be reached on permanent ministers.

3.0 Provide Jobs and Essential Services

- The Ministry of Electricity met with Turkey and Syria to discuss additional electricity imports for the summer and beyond. An agreement with Turkey was previously reached to supply \$50 million in imported electricity.



Highlights

4.0 Establish Foundations for a Strong Economy

- Vice President 'Abd al-Mahdi told US officials in Washington that adoption of a fuel subsidy reform plan will be a top priority for the new Cabinet.

5.0 Establish Good Governance, Rule of Law

- The Ministry of Justice conducted an investigation concerning rights violations against detainees. The Minister clarified that any violations uncovered would be sent to the cabinet for possible prosecution.

6.0 Maintain International Engagement and Support

- After talks with the main opposition Social Democrats on April 20, Danish Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen expected broad political backing for a new six-month mandate to keep troops in Iraq. Denmark has some 500 troops serving with the Multi-National Forces in Iraq; the present mandate expires at the end of June.
- According to the Japan-Iraq Assistance Update, Japan is now providing grant aid totaling \$1.5 billion to Iraq to rebuild the foundations of public life covering such areas as power generation, education, water supply and sanitation, health, and employment, as well as security. Up to \$3.5 billion in aid will be provided for medium-term reconstruction.
- The UN lead for constitutional issues, South African Nicholas Fink Hayson, has arrived in Baghdad.



[1.0] Neutralize the Insurgents – Iraqi Security Forces Update

Ministry of Interior Forces

COMPONENT	TRAINED & EQUIPPED
POLICE	57,586
HIGHWAY PATROL	
OTHER MOI FORCES	29,396
TOTAL	86,982*

Ministry of Defense Forces

COMPONENT	OPERATIONAL
ARMY	71,797
AIR FORCE	193
NAVY	521
TOTAL	72,511**

Total Trained & Equipped ISF:

159,493

* Ministry of Interior Forces: Unauthorized absences personnel are included in these numbers

** Ministry of Defense Forces: Unauthorized absences personnel are not included in these numbers

Data as of April 25, 2005



[2.0] Ensure the Continuation of Support for Iraq's Electoral Process through 2005 – **Developments**

ITG Formation:

- On April 28, The Transitional National Assembly overwhelmingly approved the cabinet of Iraq Prime Minister Ja'afari. This followed the approval of this list by the Presidency Council. The list included five positions that will be filled temporarily by other members of the cabinet (e.g.. Ja'afari will act as Defense Minister) until a decision can be reached on permanent ministers.

Transitional National Assembly (TNA):

- A USAID partner held a "lessons learned" debriefing for the organizers of the first TNA session to better prepare for future sessions. Attended by TNA staff members and representatives of the Common Press Information Center (CPIC) and International Press Center (IPC), most agreed that although the TNA session was a success from an organizational standpoint, there were clear problems with the TNA's ability to liaise with the Arabic media.
 - In response to the criticism, USAID's partner—in collaboration with CPIC and the State Department's Public Affairs Office—organized a series of practical training sessions for the TNA Public Affairs Office on how to work with the media prior to and during parliamentary sessions.



[2.0] Ensure the Continuation of Support for Iraq's Electoral Process through 2005 – **Developments**

Transitional National Assembly (TNA) cont'd:

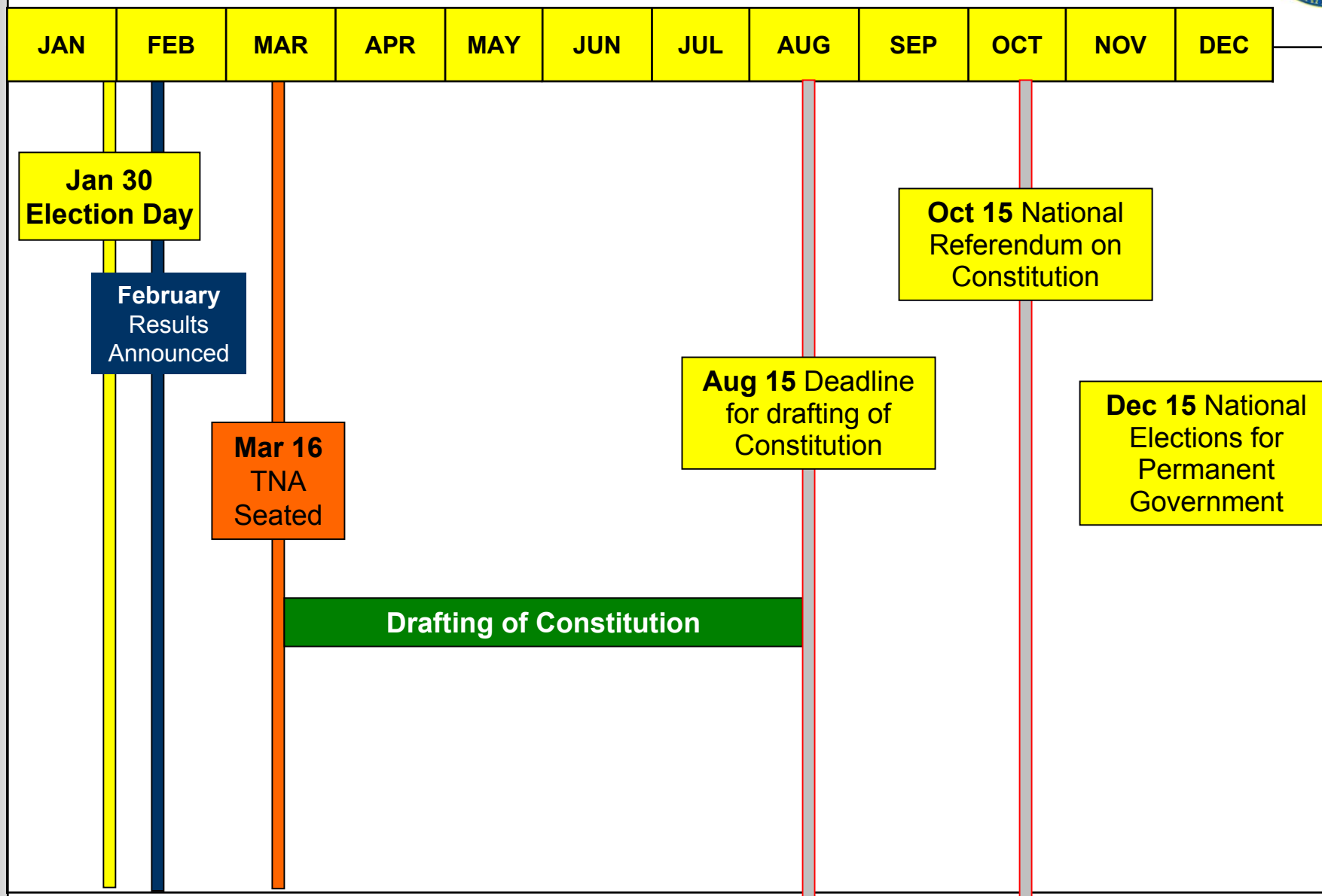
- A USAID partner providing support to the TNA hosted its third "Engendering the Constitution" meeting in late March, attended by 42 female members of the TNA, Governorate Councils and various non-governmental organizations.

Continuing TNA Responsibilities:

- Serve as Iraq's national legislature until the election of a new government under a permanent constitution.
- Put to a vote of confidence the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers nominees; nominees must be approved in the TNA by a simple majority.
- According to the Transitional Administrative Law, the TNA is to draft Iraq's new Constitution by August 15, 2005; this will be presented to the Iraqi people for their approval in a national referendum by October 15, 2005.
- If it is approved, an election for a permanent Iraqi government under that new Constitution will occur by the end of 2005.



[2.0] Ensure the Continuation of Support for Iraq's Electoral Process through 2005 – **Electoral Process Timeline**

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[3.0] Create Jobs and Provide Essential Services – **Economy**

Oil Update:

- Crude oil prices in world markets for the week ending April 22 closed with the following prices:
 - Kirkuk Crude at \$45.29/barrel
 - Basra Light at \$44.49/barrel
 - WTI Cushing at \$52.37/barrel
 - Dated Brent at \$51.37/barrel
 - Oman/Dubai at \$46.39/barrel

* WTI Cushing, Dated Brent, and Oman/Dubai have replaced the OPEC basket in this section as these three crudes determine Iraq crude prices.

Employment Update: Number of Iraqis employed by USG-administered projects in each sector

Employing Organization	Iraqis Last Week	Iraqis This Week	% Change on Week
PCO (Project and Contracting Office)	26,322	27,488	4.4%
USAID	80,729	76,269	-5.5%
AIRP (Accelerated Iraqi Reconstruction Program)	2,525	2,725	7.9%
MILCON (Military Construction)	523	577	10.3%
*CERP (Commanders' Emergency Response Program)	23,706	23,706	0.0%
MNSTC-I	15,605	23,938	53.4%
IRRF NON-CONSTRUCTION	9,429	9,157	-2.9%
GRAND TOTAL	158,839	163,860	3.2%



[3.0] Create Jobs and Provide Essential Services – **Job Creation and Food Security**

Job Creation:

- The International Labor Organization (ILO) plans to support the Ministry of Planning in adopting a national employment action plan, and is pushing to have the plan added to Iraq's National Development Strategy. The ILO will advise the Ministry of Planning on capacity building, technical assistance and a national labor code.
- Forty wheat technology field days are being held this week in Arbil, Dahuk, and As Sulaymaniyah. The field days, bring together farmers and Ministry of Agriculture extension staff to discuss the results of improved technologies used in wheat production. Approximately 1,300 Iraqi farmers are expected to participate the field days that will demonstrate improved cultivation techniques.

Public Distribution System (PDS):

- The Ministry of Finance (MoF) has transferred \$75 million to the MOT to procure an emergency stock of wheat flour in the coming weeks to increase buffer stocks against future shortages of wheat.



[3.0] Create Jobs and Provide Essential Services – Education and Health Care

Education:

- PCO has completed 457 schools renovations to date and a further 253 are under construction. Under the Accelerated Iraq Reconstruction Program (AIRP), an additional 24 school renovations have been completed and 16 are underway.
 - 840 schools are scheduled for completion by mid-2005.
- An Iraqi NGO that focuses on the arts conducted 48 three-day participatory art workshops for youth in southern Iraq. More than 3,000 youth participated in the workshops that focused on artistic self-expression and using art as a social and educational outlet.
 - With art programs stifled by the previous regime, schools around the country had insufficient resources to provide wide-scale art instruction. This program enhances and broadens education for Iraqi youth.
 - An Iraq Transition Initiative grant provided for the equipment, stipends and lodging for these workshops.

Health Care:

- Construction is underway on 142 new primary health care (PHC) facilities across Iraq and one has been completed. Under the AIRP, an additional two PHCs are under construction and eight have been completed.



[3.0] Create Jobs and Provide Essential Services – **Water and Sanitation & Telecommunications**

Water and Sanitation:

- PCO has 83 water treatment projects underway, completing 11 to date. Under the AIRP, there are a further 13 water treatment projects under construction and 36 have been completed.
- PCO has completed 11 Small Water System Rehabilitation projects, which are delivering clean water to 120,960 residents.
 - A total of 145 projects are planned throughout all 18 Governorates, of which 75 have started. Projects are awarded to directly to local contractors and local water authorities.

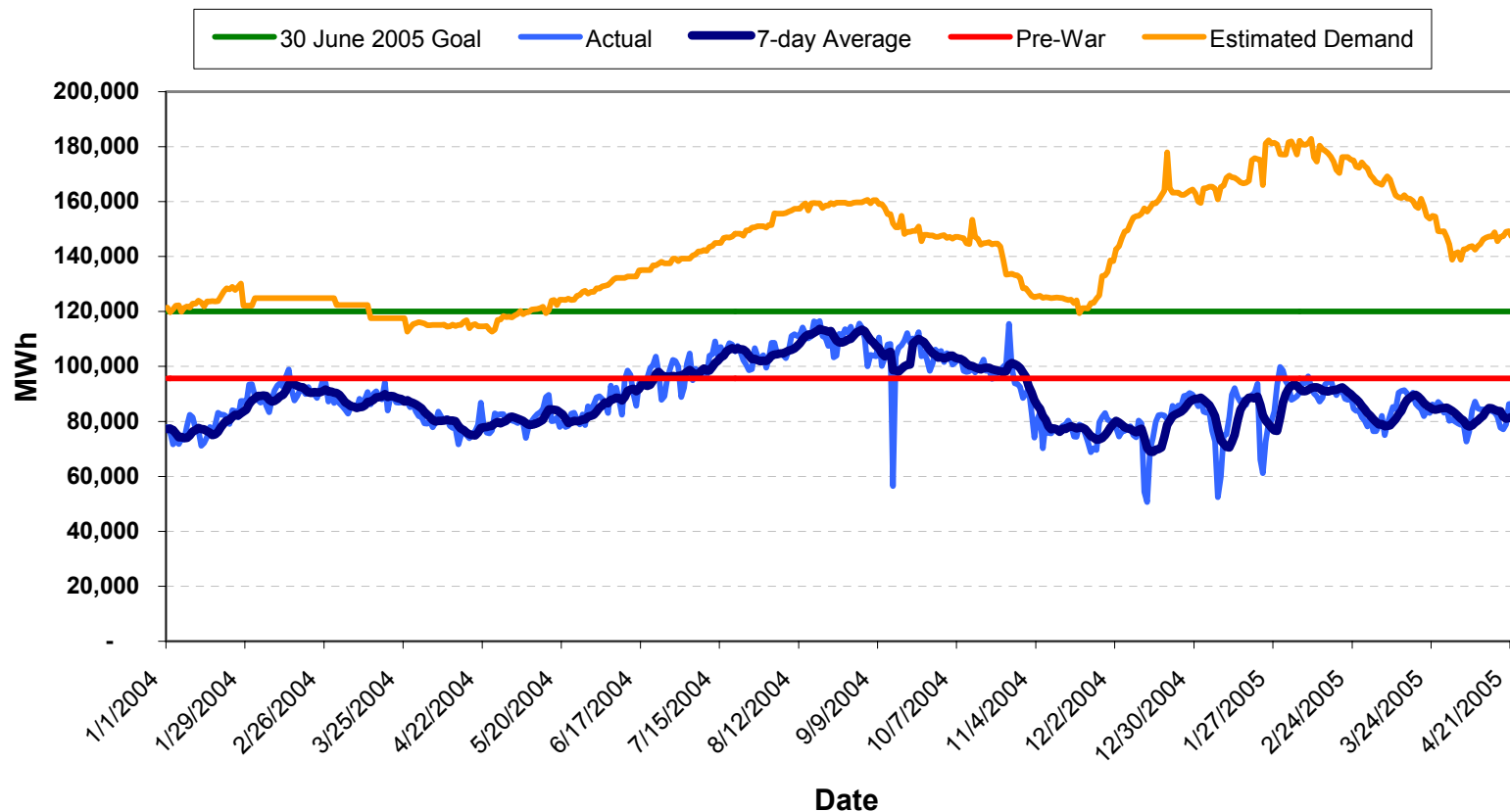
Telecommunications:

- As of April 23, the Mobile Switching Office (MSO) was powered up. 15 base stations in Baghdad are operational. All base stations will be turned over to the Iraqis in June.
- Five Iraqi agencies have been connected to the Wireless Broadband Loop. All 35 agencies will be connected by May 30.



[3.0] Create Jobs and Provide Essential Services – Electricity Overview

Iraq Daily Electricity Load Served



- Electricity load served in the last week (April 18-24) averaged of 81,700 MWh. Hours of available power averaged nine hours in Baghdad and eight hours country-wide.



[4.0] Establish Foundations for a Strong Economy

Funds from UNDP Donor Countries Provided to Approved Projects:

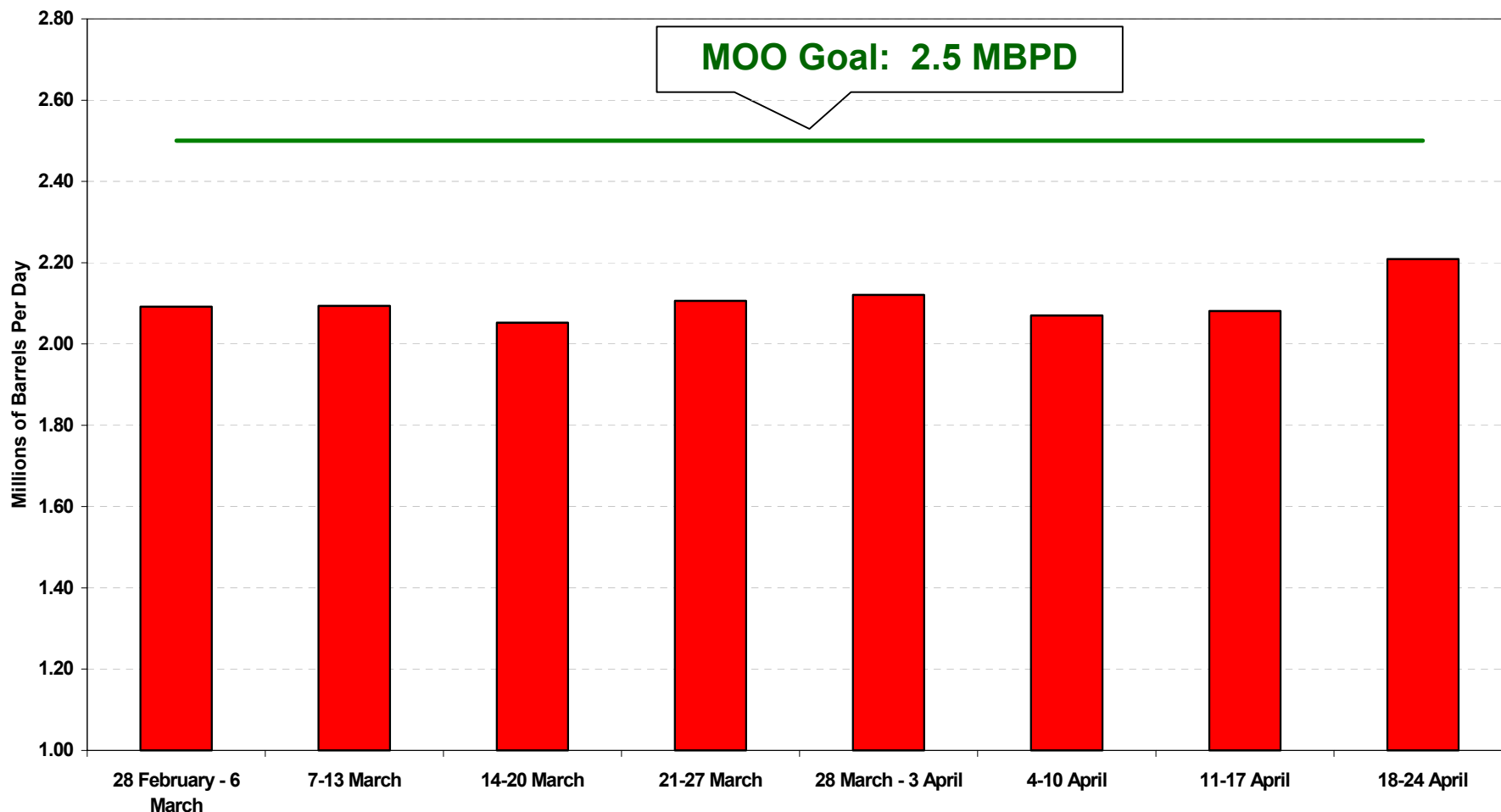
- A total of \$424 million was earmarked for approved projects from Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, EC, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, and UK.
- A total of \$92 million in un-earmarked funds from Canada, Greece, Iceland, India, Japan, Norway, Qatar, UK and US are pledged toward supporting education and culture, healthcare, infrastructure and housing, agriculture, water resources and environment, food security, mine action, refugees and IDPs.

Vice President 'Abd al-Mahdi and Ministry of Finance on Subsidies and Budget:

- Vice President 'Abd al-Mahdi told US officials in Washington that adoption of a fuel subsidy reform plan will be a top priority for the new Cabinet.
- The Ministry of Finance, with an eye on the IMF fiscal target, is resisting pressure from other ministries to raise expenditures, but the Ministry will try to identify funds for infrastructure security and summer diesel imports.



[4.0] Establish Foundations for a Strong Economy – Crude Oil Production

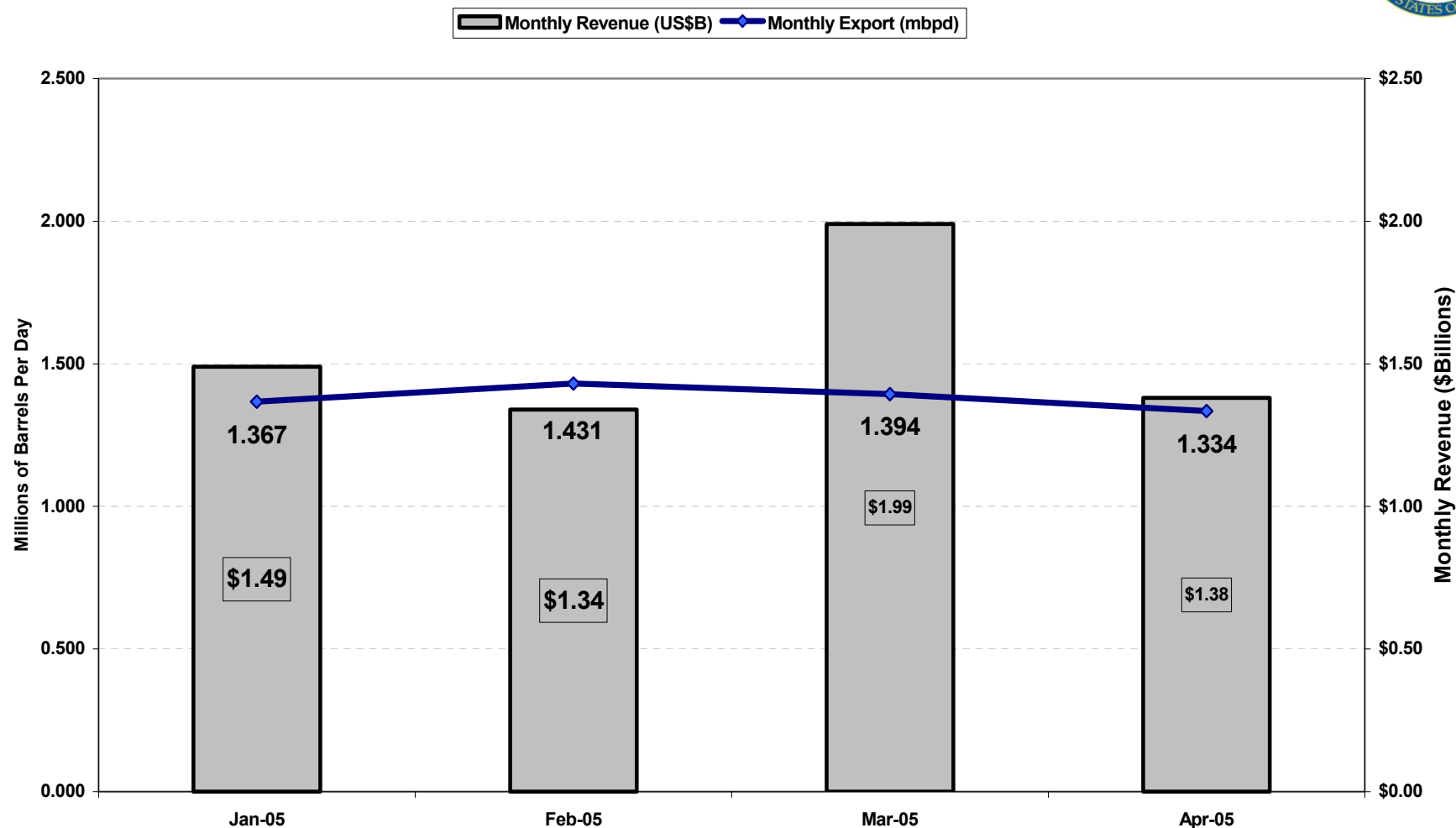


- Weekly Average (April 18 - 24) of 2.21 MBPD
- Pre-War Peak: 2.5 MBPD in March 2003
- Post-War Peak: 2.67 MBPD

Production Target



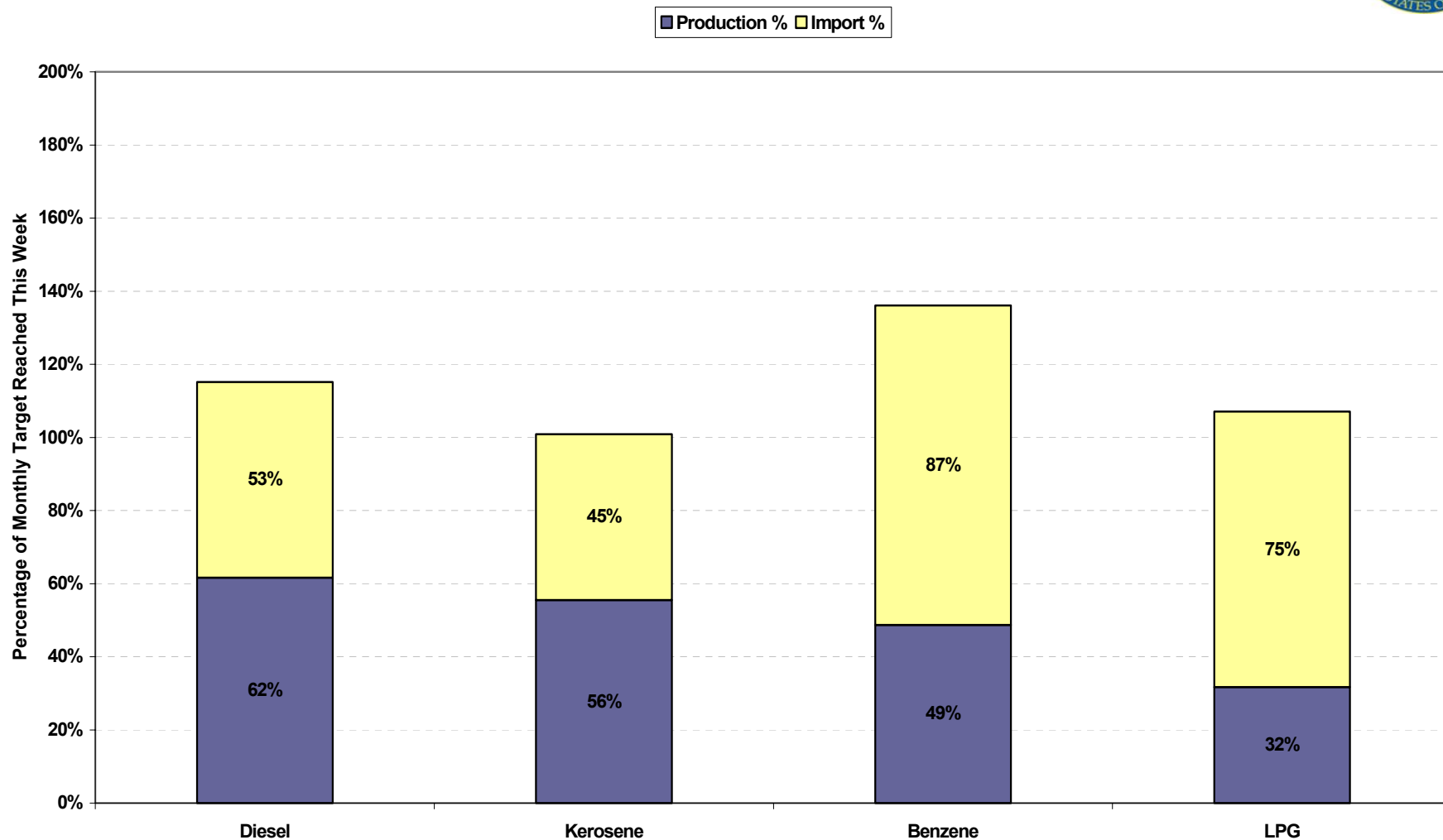
[4.0] Establish Foundations for a Strong Economy – Crude Oil Export



- 2003 Revenue: \$5,076.6 M
- 2004 Revenue: \$17,012.3 M
- 2005 Revenue: \$6,200 M (cumulative for 2005)



[4.0] Establish Foundations for a Strong Economy – Refined Products



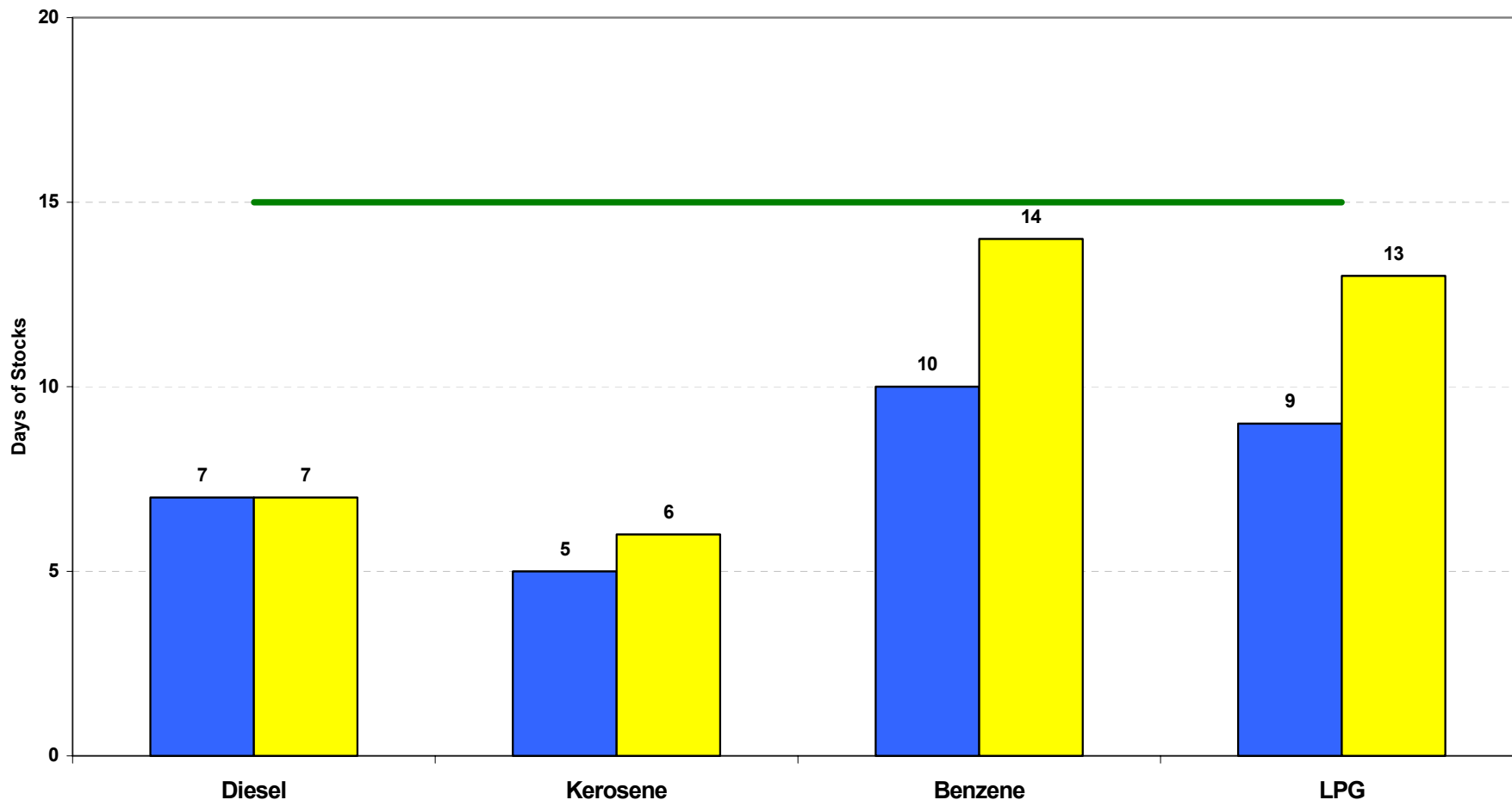
Note: This chart represents the average percentage of daily target reached for the week of April 18 – 24

- Diesel: 20.7 ML of 18 ML
- Kerosene: 6.9 ML of 6.8 ML
- Benzene: 24.5 ML of 18 ML
- LPG: 4,605 tons of 4,300 tons



[4.0] Establish Foundations for a Strong Economy – National Stock Levels

Mar-05 Apr-05 Goal



- The goal is for all refined products to be over 15 days worth of stocks at maximum consumption rates and does not represent seasonal change. The numbers given above are monthly averages.



[4.0] Establish Foundations for a Strong Economy – IRRF I & II

Financials

Financial Status-IRRF I & II			Committed		Obligated		Disbursed	
Sector	2207 Report	Apportion	Last Week	Current	Last Week	Current	Last Week	Current
Security and Law Enforcement	5,045	5,045	4,721	4,717	3,990	4,132	1,891	1,995
Electricity Sector	4,369	4,078	3,944	3,945	2,941	2,960	996	1,004
Oil Infrastructure	1,701	1,701	1,570	1,570	1,009	1,011	234	261
Justice, Public Safety, and Civil Society	1,120	1,120	997	1,009	787	799	220	232
Democracy	832	832	756	756	670	670	340	343
Education, Refugees, Human Rights, Governance	379	379	283	286	271	273	79	83
Roads, Bridges, and Construction	359	355	341	343	191	191	67	72
Health Care	786	786	764	756	484	559	65	71
Transportation and Communications	513	512	474	477	320	329	65	65
Water Resources and Sanitation	2,279	1,770	1,755	1,753	1,068	1,067	105	107
Private Sector Development	843	836	779	780	765	765	447	447
Admin Expense	213	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
IRRF II SUBTOTAL	18,439	17,443	16,414	16,420	12,525	12,790	4,538	4,709
IRRF II CONSTRUCTION	11,306	10,378	10,110	10,100	7,154	7,288	2,087	2,154
IRRF II NON-CONSTRUCTION	6,301	6,233	5,548	5,564	4701	4,831	2,111	2,213
IRRF II DEMOCRACY	832	832	756	756	670	670	340	343
IRRF I SUBTOTAL	2,475	2,475	2,475	2475	2,475	2475	2,150	2,150
GRAND TOTAL IRRF I & II	20,914	19,918	18,889	18,895	15,000	15,265	6,688	6814



[5.0] Establish Good Governance, Rule of Law – Refugees, Democracy and Human Rights

Justice Ministry Conducts Investigation:

- The Ministry of Justice conducted an investigation concerning rights violations against detainees. The Minister clarified that any violations uncovered would be sent to the cabinet for possible prosecution.

Iraqi Delegation in Tehran Discusses the Refugee Situation:

- The Ministry of Displacement and Migration recently sent a delegation to Tehran. The delegation primarily discussed the situation of Iraqi refugees who lost their nationalities in Iran.

National Democratic Institute (NDI) Delegation to Croatia:

- NDI sent 16 representatives from eight Iraqi political parties to Croatia for in-depth campaign training on research, goal-setting, targeting, message development, voter contact, media relations, and campaign planning.



[5.0] Establish Good Governance, Rule of Law – Refugees, Democracy and Human Rights

Award of Civil Society Micro Grants:

- After a review of all micro grant applications, a USAID partner providing support to the Iraqi Transitional Government finalized the selection of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) ready to implement proposed projects related to civic education and to contribute to the national constitutional process. A first group of NGOs will be officially awarded grants in April, based on the quality of their applications and projects. On the day of the awards, 22 organizations will participate in a day-long training workshop on donor relations, financial management and report writing.

Ministry of Oil Takes Charge:

- The Iraqi Oil Ministry has fired more than 450 employees suspected of selling fuel on the black market. The move is the most recent in a series of measures designed to crack down on corruption within the industry. The Oil Ministry's general inspector Ali Muhsin Ismael said the government's inability to provide a secure environment was partly responsible for problems in the sector.

Iraq Law Schools Strengthen Democracy and Promote Stability:

- USAID's Higher Education and Development Program (HEAD) works with Iraqi law schools to build strong links with international academic counterparts, creating an on-campus environment that favors pro-democratic, moderate thought, and actively involves professors and students in the effort to develop a new constitution and support the nascent political process. DePaul University's International Human Rights Law Institute (IHRLI) is working through the HEAD program to strengthen legal instruction at three Iraqi law schools.



[6.0] Maintain Int'l Engagement & Support – **Developments**

International Support:

- After talks with Social Democrats on April 20, Danish Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen expected broad political backing for a new six-month mandate to keep troops in Iraq. Denmark has some 500 troops serving with the Multi-National Forces in Iraq; the present mandate expires at the end of June.
- According to the Japan-Iraq Assistance Update, Japan is providing grant aid totaling \$1.5 billion to Iraq to rebuild the foundations of public life. The assistance covers areas such as power generation, education, water supply and sanitation, health, and employment, as well as security. Up to \$3.5 billion in aid will be provided for medium-term reconstruction.
- Italy has announced it will contribute 500,000€ to the Trustee Fund created by NATO to finance transportation and housing costs for Iraqi officers who will attend the Atlantic Alliance training course set to begin in the coming months.



[6.0] Maintain Int'l Engagement & Support – **Stability Contributors**

27 MNF-I Contributors (in addition to US)

Albania	El Salvador	Latvia	Poland
Armenia	Estonia	Lithuania	Romania
Australia	Georgia	Macedonia	Singapore
Azerbaijan	Italy	Moldova	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Japan	Mongolia	Ukraine
Czech Rep	Kazakhstan	Netherlands	UK
Denmark	Korea	Norway	

*Note: Fiji participating as a part of the UN mission in Iraq. NTM-I forces in country total over 130 additional personnel from 17 countries, including the US.

TOTAL ~ 22,000 Forces

28 Countries and NATO
(including US)
Support Iraqi Stability Operations



Iraq Weekly Status – General Information

- This brief draws from multiple sources. References are cited on the respective pages in the “Notes Page” section (View → Notes Page).
- Please forward all questions and/or comments to (unclassified) NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov or (classified) NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.sgov.gov